

## **Attachment A Special Support Programs**

### **1. Introduction**

This paper describes the four special support programs proposed for funding from the FY 98 federal appropriation. These programs total \$2.27 million. These are summarized in the following table and additional detail is provided in the descriptions for each program.

<b>Special Support Programs</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Amount (Thousands)</b>
Integrated phasing strategy	Coordinated Development of Phasing Strategy for ERPP, Guidance Document, and Conservation Strategy to Comply with Endangered Species Act	\$1,647
Comprehensive and Coordinated Monitoring and Research Program	Integration of Near Term Restoration Monitoring with CCMARP	\$157
Watershed Management	Development of a coordinated approach to watershed management	\$184
Coordinated Permitting	Coordinated permitting of near term ecosystem restoration projects	\$282
	Total:	\$2,270

### **2. Strategies for Phased Implementation of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan**

In order to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem using adaptive management, a logical set of priorities must be established based on the current understanding of the system. Actions need to be selected to address these priorities and the results of these actions need to be evaluated to refine priorities in future years. A strategy for phased implementation of the ERPP needs to be developed to lay out these priorities and identify the near term restoration actions to address them. The strategy for phased implementation of ecosystem restoration activities:

- ▶ will be described in the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan,
- ▶ will be essential to the conservation strategy being developed to comply with the Endangered Species Act, and
- ▶ will be the basis for setting funding priorities for near term restoration in the Guidance Document.

Development of the phased implementation strategy will be a joint effort of CALFED staff involved in the:

- ▶ the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan,
- ▶ the Restoration Coordination Program, and
- ▶ Endangered Species Act compliance and development of assurances.

There is a need for additional resources at both the technical and policy level to complete the phased implementation strategy with strong technical and policy level consensus. At the policy level, it will require coordinated, effective stakeholder input from the BDAC Ecosystem Restoration Workgroup and the BDAC Ecosystem Roundtable.

The phased implementation strategy will require technical input on three levels including 1) additional technical assistance at the staff level, 2) establishment of a standing science panel composed of outside independent scientists and local stakeholder, agency and independent specialists, and 3) a panel of wholly independent scientists.

### **3. Comprehensive and Coordinated Monitoring and Research Program**

The Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) and the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) are going to be working with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program staff and stakeholders to develop a comprehensive and coordinated monitoring and research program (CMARP) for the Bay/Delta and its watershed. CMARP will include a structure and process for integrated data management, data analysis, and reporting. Monitoring elements for near-term ecosystem restoration need to be integrated with CMARP so that restoration proposals contain monitoring elements to determine whether stated objectives have been met and to provide guidance for assessing future restoration needs. This special support program will fund a portion of a system which does the following:

- Review of monitoring, assessment, and reporting plans prior to implementation,
- Standardization of data collection methodology, format, and storage, and
- Review, evaluation, and circulation of results to all interested parties.

### **4. Development of a Watershed Management Program**

Successful and durable solutions to complex water quality problems which affect environmental resources are best approached from the perspective of an entire watershed. Through this approach, local pollution prevention and control activities are coordinated with similar activities to enable a concerted effort to alleviate ecosystem and water quality problems. Coordination of these efforts also results in the exchange of information, sharing of experiences, and development of more efficient solutions.

### **5. Coordinated Permitting**

Facilitation of timely review and necessary action on permits will be required for implementation of near term ecosystem restoration projects. This effort will also lay the groundwork for a coordinated approach on permit coordination for the eventual implementation of the CALFED program.